

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA SENATE 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON FISH AND GAME**

**Call to Order:** By **CHAIRMAN JOSEPH (JOE) TROPILA**, on February 20, 2007 at 3:00 A.M., in Room 422 Capitol.

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Sen. Joseph (Joe) Tropila, Chairman (D)  
Sen. Keith Bales (R)  
Sen. Joe Balyeat (R)  
Sen. Gregory D. Barkus (R)  
Sen. Steven Gallus (D)  
Sen. Ken (Kim) Hansen (D)  
Sen. Larry Jent (D)  
Sen. Lane L. Larson (D)  
Sen. Bill Tash (R)

**Members Excused:** None.

**Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Claudia Johnson, Committee Secretary  
Joe Kolman, Legislative Branch

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: SJ 18, 2/19/2007; SB 17, 2/8/2007  
Executive Action: SJ 18, SB 17

00:12:04 Chair Sen. Balyeat

**HEARING ON SJ 18**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:12:42 **SEN. GERALD PEASE (D), SD 21**, opened the hearing on **SJ 18**, Urge Congress to allocate federal excise taxes to tribes.

**Proponents:**

00:14:55 Larry Peterman, Chief of Field Operations, Department of Fish, Wildlife and Park (FWP)

**Opponents:** None.

**Informational Testimony:** None.

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:16:33 Sen. Barkus to Sen. Pease

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:20:06 Sen. Pease

**HEARING ON SB 17**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:21:13 **SEN. LANE LARSON (D), SD 22**, opened the hearing on **SB 17**, Modify upland game bird enhancement program to eliminate % set-aside for releases.

**Proponents:**

00:23:19 Robert Lucas, Past President of Big Sky Upland Bird Association, and a Pheasants Forever member

**EXHIBIT(fis38a01)**

00:26:34 Land Tawney, Private Land/Public Wildlife Council

**EXHIBIT(fis38a02)**

00:27:40 Molly Immen, Montana Audubon

[EXHIBIT\(fis38a03\)](#)

00:28:29 Larry Peterman, FWP

[EXHIBIT\(fis38a04\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(fis38a05\)](#)

00:30:11 Larry Copenhaver, Montana Wildlife Federation

[EXHIBIT\(fis38a06\)](#)

**Opponents:**

00:32:34 Rep. Julie French

[EXHIBIT\(fis38a07\)](#)

00:36:13 Sen. Balyeat to Rep. Julie French

00:36:32 Fred Easy, Prickly Pear Sportsmen Association

[EXHIBIT\(fis38a08\)](#)

00:39:35 Mike Jensen, Restaurant Owner

[EXHIBIT\(fis38a09\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(fis38a10\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(fis38a11\)](#)

00:43:28 Ed Smith, Self

[EXHIBIT\(fis38a12\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(fis38a13\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(fis38a14\)](#)

**Informational Testimony:** None.

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:10:16 Sen. Barkus to Larry Peterman, FWP

01:17:44 Sen. Barkus to Ed Smith

01:22:16 Sen. Bales to Larry Peterman, FWP

01:29:09 Sen. Tropila to Larry Peterman, FWP

01:30:47 Sen. Barkus to Larry Peterman, FWP

01:32:31 Sen. Balyeat to Larry Peterman, FWP

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:37:28 Sen. Larson

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SJ 18**

01:39:43 **Motion:** SEN. JENT moved that SJ 18 DO PASS.

**Discussion:**

01:40:04 Sen. Barkus

01:40:18 Sen. Bales

01:41:51 Sen. Barkus to Sen. Bales

01:42:35 Sen. Bales

01:43:11 Sen. Barkus to Sen. Bales

01:44:38 Joe Kolman, LSD

01:44:57 Sen. Bales to Larry Peterman, FWP

01:47:42 Sen. Barkus

01:48:25 **Motion/Vote:** SEN. BARKUS moved that SJ 18 BE TABLED.  
Motion failed 3-6 by roll call vote with SEN. BALES,  
SEN. BARKUS, and SEN. TASH voting aye.

**Discussion:**

01:49:51 Sen. Balyeat

01:51:35 **Motion/Vote:** SEN. GALLUS moved that SJ 18 DO PASS.  
Motion carried 5-4 by roll call vote with SEN. BALES,  
SEN. BALYEAT, SEN. BARKUS, and SEN. TASH voting no.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 17**

01:52:47 **Motion:** SEN. LARSON moved that SB 17 DO PASS.

**Discussion:**

01:53:52 Sen. Bales

01:56:14 Sen. Gallus

01:57:12 Sen. Barkus

01:57:53 Sen. Balyeat

01:59:38 Sen. Tropila

02:00:10 **Vote:** Motion that SB 17 DO PASS failed 3-6 by roll call vote with SEN. GALLUS, SEN. JENT, and SEN. LARSON voting aye.

02:00:20 **Motion/Vote:** SEN. JENT moved that SB 17 BE TABLED AND THE VOTE REVERSED. Motion carried 6-3 by roll call vote with SEN. GALLUS, SEN. JENT, and SEN. LARSON voting no.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 5:15 P.M.

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SEN. JOSEPH (JOE) TROPILA, Chairman

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CLAUDIA JOHNSON, Secretary

JT/cj

Additional Exhibits:

**EXHIBIT ([fis38aad.pdf](#))**